

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The drawings were objected to for failing to illustrate the claimed feature of determining vertical and lateral deviations from a virtual approach axis. The Applicants submit that features well-understood by those of ordinary skill in the art need not be illustrated in the drawings of an application. With regard to the present objection, a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would recognize how to determine vertical and lateral deviations from a virtual approach axis, without illustration of this process. For example, suppose the virtual approach axis is the Z-axis of an X, Y, and Z graph whose X, Y, and Z axes represent the axes of three-dimensional space. A skilled artisan would know how to determine the aircraft's vertical and lateral deviations from the virtual approach axis (i.e., the Z axis) if the aircraft was located 500 feet above and 800 feet to the left of the virtual approach axis.

Claim 1 has been canceled in favor of new claims 14 and 15. Claims 2-13 have been amended for clarity and to depend from claim 14, where appropriate. Support for the newly recited features is provided at least in the specification on page 1, lines 5-21, and page 7, lines 19-27.

Claims 1-5 and 13 were rejected, under 35 USC §102(e), as being anticipated by Staggs (US 6,711,479). Claims 6-12 were rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Staggs. To the extent these rejections may be deemed applicable to the amended claims, the Applicants respectfully traverse based on the following points.

Staggs discloses a system that implements only a non-precision approach. Staggs does not disclose anything concerning a precision approach. In contrast, the system defined by claim 14 includes a landing aid multimode receiver that implements a precision approach. The present claimed system implements both a precision approach and a non-precision approach.

Moreover, Staggs does not disclose integrating the function that implements the non-precision approach in a receiver that implements the precision approach, as recited in claim 14. The claimed feature makes it possible to use links between equipments (e.g., computers and sensors) that already exist. Thus, an implementation of the invention requires only modifications of a software type, thereby making it possible to reduce the cost and bulk of the implementation. Moreover, this solution is very robust and upgradeable, since in general it requires only software updates. The Applicants submit it is not obvious to integrate both a precision and a non-precision approach mode

functionality in a receiver because a non-precision approach and a precision approach are basically very different.

Staggs discloses determining the deviation between two points CTP and ITP (see Staggs col. 7, lines 57-61) but does not explicitly teach the determination and use of lateral and vertical deviations between the aircraft and an approach axis.

Staggs also discloses a speaker (see Fig. 13) for providing aural warnings to the pilot (see col. 9, lines 24-26). Staggs' user device displays and annunciates warning indications (col. 7, lines 60-61). Staggs does not disclose a user device that provides guidance for the aircraft. Moreover, Staggs' user device does not provide guidance by cancelling flight deviations, as recited in claim 14.

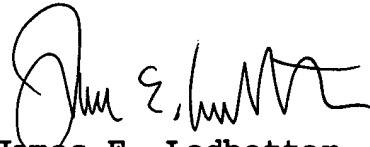
In accordance with the above discussion, the Applicants respectfully submit that Staggs does not anticipate or render obvious the subject matter defined by new claim 14. Therefore, allowance of claim 14 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone

the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James E. Ledbetter', with a stylized, cursive script.

James E. Ledbetter

Registration No. 28,732

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JEL/DWW/att

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STEVENS DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 850
P.O. Box 34387
Washington, D.C. 20043-4387
Telephone: (202) 785-0100
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200